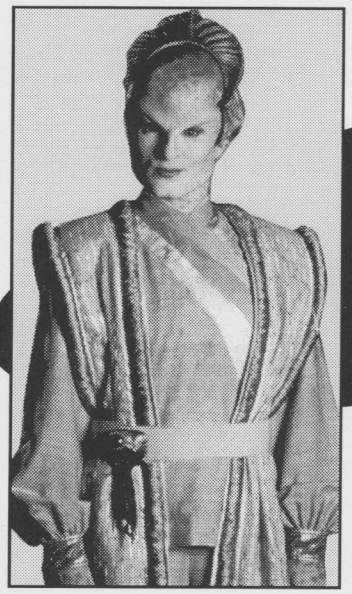
The Centaurian Sentinel

Dedicated to J. Michael Straczynski's television series Babylon 5.

Data File 10 | **BABYLON 5 EDITION** | **June 1995**

THE METAMORPHOSING OF DELENN

J. Michael Straczynski made the first public introduction of Delenn on GEnie, back on January 1, 1992. The character was introduced as follows: "His name is Delenn. And he stays very close to Commander Sinclair. Some say he is keeping a close eye on Sinclair. Some say he is Sinclair's friend. And some say there may well be something very lethal behind those unreadable eyes." In addition to using the masculine gender in Delenn's reference, the character's voice was to be altered for BABYLON 5's pilot, "The Gathering." It was Joe's intent to cast a female actress as a male alien so that the character's appearance would look unusual. Mira Furlan was cast for the part as Delenn, and though she had a unisex appearance her voice was not synthesized.



The androgenous Delenn, circa 2257.

The spiritual Delenn, circa 2258.

The humanoid Delenn, circa 2259.

When the first season series started, with the episode "Midnight on the Firing Line," Delenn's appearance was perceivably different. The Minbari were defined as having two clearly opposite, but equal, sexes.

When Delenn had exited from her chrysalis in the second season episode "Revelations" she had a remarkably different appearance due to her metamorphosis. Though she has a vestige of the bony crest that are indigenous to Minbari, with her long flowing hair and definite female shape, she took on a human-like appearance. She also began experiencing new types of emotions, rejection from her original species, and prejudice from humans because of her tie with the Minbari. ★

BABCOM '95 – A BABYLON 5 CONVENTION

ISN EXCLUSIVE

Location: Birmingham NEC, England
Date: 29th and 30th April 1995
Guests: J. Michael Straczynski, Claudia Christian, Peter Jurasik, Optic Nerve.

Babcom was a 'professionally' organized event and not a fan-run convention. Over the weekend there were an estimated 2,000 people in attendance.

If I revealed everything that was said (that I can remember that is) then this report would be too long, so I'll just give you a few tidbits on each guest.

Saturday: Claudia Christian was first on stage and had the difficult task of trying to instill some life into a lackluster crowd. Claudia has an extremely bubbly personality. She talks fast, laughs a lot and does excellent impersonations, particularly of Kate Mulgrew (Cpt. Janeway of *Star Trek: Voyager*). She talked about her love of comedy (she admires Steve Martin and Robin Williams) and said that she was born to be an actress - all she ever wanted to do. Claudia revealed that her mother, who was at the back of the hall with J. Michael Straczynski, is German.

Next up on stage were the guys from Optic Nerve who answered questions about the makeup and masks used on BABYLON 5 and showed slides of the artists at work. Each latex mask is only used once and they are all hand painted. Originally the Narn masks had the spots painted on individually until they came up with the idea of a template and a spray gun. Delenn's makeup is the most time consuming; the guys revealed that the nearer the alien makeup is to human the more work it requires to make it look right. It takes two and a half hours to do Londo's makeup – and some of the actors have to be in the studio by 4am! They're in makeup until 6 or 7pm and the studio has massive fans to cool everyone down between takes. The guys said that sweat was a problem because it caused bubbles in the masks and the aliens without nostrils have trouble breathing in the heat. When a new alien is required the Optic Nerve team usually have about a week to design it, get it approved and make the masks. It was revealed that sometimes some of the crew appear as extras, and one guy seems to be going for a record!

During the breaks between guest appearances we wandered the "massive dealers hall" which had very few dealers' tables, and even less B5 merchandise. I managed to grab a B5 mug before they disappeared. I also bought some original artwork from the comic issue #5 but missed out on getting it signed by the artist. JMS and Kathryn Drennan wandered the dealers hall and graciously accepted praise and thanks and

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BABYLON 5 – THE SAGA CONTINUES

WARNER BROS APPROVES A THIRD SEASON FOR B5!

Earlier this week newspaper reports where announcing that BABYLON 5 was renewed by Warner Bros for a third season. Many times an announcement like this may be a rumor, that is until it comes directly from the source. Following are the official announcements for season three, "I Have Become Death, the Destroyer of Worlds."

America Online, June 8, 10:23 pm:

"Well you can all relax, break out the champagne, or whatever your pleasure is – we got official notification for the third season this afternoon. We're good for 22 more episodes. Prep will start next week, and we intend to start production in late July. The third season will premiere in November.

We feel pretty good here, I hope all of you do as well. Thanks to all of you fans for your support. We'll try to live up to your expectations."

John Copeland

GEnie, June 9, 3:26 am:

"Got the phone call late today, spent the next bit on the phone with people who had to be notified. Didn't get a chance to log on until just now. Yes, it is now safe to say . . . eep.

The official announcement of BABYLON 5's second season will be made tomorrow by Warner Bros.

Naturally, the day the word comes is the day I'm kinda down with a slight bug, which kinda takes the edge off it . . . but suffice to say that Brett's observation is correct; with this new season, we'll be 3/5ths done with the story, over half.

Suffice to say we are all very happy, and looking forward to shooting Year Three commencing about July 31st. (And half the fun, well a quarter of the fun, is knowing just how many people in what groups are going to be SO pissed off that we've been renewed)."

J. Michael Straczynski

Earlier in the week JMS had replied to a question on the internet regarding Warner's interest with B5. "Interestingly enough . . . yes, Warners does seem to take an interest in where the series is going. The one comment I hear most often is that they enjoy seeing where the stories are going, and that they're not really like the stories being done elsewhere. This is the only one of the Prime Time Entertainment Network shows to pick up even one Emmy, let alone the two we've received. There were a number of folks at Warner Bros who initially really weren't sure about us, who have subsequently come around and have been very supportive. Two of the main folks who've taken an active interest and supported us are Dick Robertson and Evan Thompson, between them the two Main Men of PTEN. Without them, there wouldn't BE a BABYLON 5 series." ★

UPCOMING CONVENTIONS WITH BABYLON 5 PERSONNEL

Be aware that guest changes may occur due to last minute problems. ★

Big Bang Convention, June 24-25, Villa Park, IL. Peter Jurasik, Mira Furlan, Bill Mumy, Michael O'Hare, Walter Koenig are confirmed to appear. Contact: Convention Management Corp. 708/529-7318.

Atlanta Comic & Fantasy Fair, June 23-25, Odeum, Atlanta, GA. Claudia Christian is scheduled to appear. Call 404/507-7000 for more information.

Chicago Comic Con, June 30-July 1, Rosemont Convention Center, Rosemont, IL. JMS, Michael O'Hare, and Peter David will be appearing. Contact: Chicago Comico, 6830 Camden Road, Downer Grove, IL 60516; 708/852-2514.

Magnum Opus Con, July 13-16, Callaway Gardens Resort in Pine Mountain, GA. Bruce Boxleitner and Patricia Tallman (telepath from the pilot) will be there. For more information: e-mail fredg@vnet.net.

San Diego Comic Convention, July 27-30, San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA. JMS will host programs on July 29 and 30. Harlan Ellison and Bill Mumy are also scheduled to appear. Contact: San Diego Comic Convention, P.O. Box 128458, San Diego, CA 92112; 619/491-2475.

Toronto Trek IX, August 4-6, Toronto, Canada. Everett Burrell (B5 special effects makeup designer) and Mira Furlan are scheduled to appear. For more information: e-mail vonthorn@io.org or C.LYON@genie.geis.com, or mail Toronto Trek IX, Suite 0116, Box 187, 65 Front Street West, Toronto, Ontario M5J 3G2. 416/699-4666.

Crescent City Con, August 4-6, Quality Inn, Metairie, LA. Michael O'Hare is scheduled to appear. For more information contact Crescent City con at 504/833-8211.

Starquest '95, August 18-20, San Jose, CA. Featuring Michael O'Hare and Walter Koenig. Contact: Starquest 95, P.O. Box 56412, Hayward, CA 94545-6412. Include a SASE.

Mallworld, August 12-15, Florin Mall, Sacramento, CA. Jerry Doyle and Richard Biggs will be appearing. Contact: Janis Moore, P.O. Box 188993, Sacramento, CA 95818-8893; 914/447-0856.

CopperCon 15, September 8-10, Days Inn, Pheonix, AZ. Larry DiTillio will be appearing. Contact: Coppercon 15, Box 82303, Pheonix, AZ 85071-2303; 602/973-2054.

WOLF 359 – The Gathering, September 15-18, Manchester, England. Guest of Honors will include J. Michael Straczynski, Michael O'Hare, and Mira Furlan. Contact: WOLF 359, 37 Branksome Road, Southend - on - Sea, Essez 552 4HG, England.

Rising Star 4, September 29-October 1, Glenvar, VA. Richard Biggs and Spice Williams is scheduled to appear. Contact Rising Star Prod., 545 Howard Dr., Salem, VA 24153; 703/389-9400.

Farpoint '95, October 6-8, Hunt Valley, MD. Bruce Boxleitner **WILL NOT APPEAR** due to schedule changes.

ROBOCON 10, October 6-8, Grand Hotel, Anaheim, CA. Ardwight Chamberlain (also voice of Zor Prime and scriptwriter for the *Robotech* saga) will be the GOH at ROBOCON 10. Contact: ROBOCON 10, P.O. Box 3206 Anaheim, CA 92803.

LaGrange Con, October 27-29, Cleveland, OH. Bruce Boxleitner is scheduled to appear.

LOSCON 22, November 24-26, Airport Hilton, Burbank, CA. UNCONFIRMED appearance, but it's quite likely that JMS will be there. For more information: LASFS, 11513 Burbank Blvd., N. Hollywood, CA 91601. Phone: 818/760-9234. E-mail: Rbourget@aol.com.

The Centaurian Sentinel

Data File No. 10

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The Centaurian Sentinel is a newsletter dedicated to J. Michael Straczynski's television series BABYLON 5, and a forum for all beings who appreciate Science Fiction. It is sanctioned by J. Michael Straczynski.

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Membership includes: 12 monthly newsletters; a membership card; a free listing in The Zocalo Exchange section (20 words or less). All members also have an opportunity to have their BABYLON 5 related artwork and articles (no stories please) published in ***The Centaurian Sentinel***. Annual dues are $12 for U.S. and Canadian memberships, and $24 for overseas memberships. Please make U.S. funds payable to Michael Zmuda. For newsletter information or for submissions contact: ***The Centaurian Sentinel***, c/o Michael Zmuda, 17 Orchard Road, Putnam Valley, NY 10579-3040; m.zmuda.genie.geis.com Please include a SASE if you would like your material returned. "Nuke 'em till they glow, then shoot them in the dark!." ★

ON THE ROAD WITH BABYLON 5

One of the main reasons I became a dealer of science fiction memorabilia was so that I could go to as many conventions as I could get to. Besides having a long love of travelling, I like to meet and talk with people. By going to conventions, I get to meet lots of new and interesting people (both fans and guest stars), I get to travel, and I even get to make money.

The last two conventions that I have gone to are perfect examples. I recently travelled to Houston, Texas for Con-Troll, and Birmingham, England for Babcom '95. Both trips were worth it from the money standpoint, the meeting and talking to people standpoint, and in the case of England, the travel was great too.

CON-TROLL

Jerry Doyle was the media guest of honor at Con-Troll, April 21-23. Now, I've met Jerry at other cons, and we've talked at all of those. He's seen me so many times (I go out of the way to support cons with B5 guests), that he recognizes me whenever he sees me. The best part is that he smiles when he sees me, and that makes me feel great.

They brought Jerry into the dealers' room on Friday. The promoter caught me off guard when I heard him say, "Jerry, here's somebody you probably never saw before." I turn around, and there's Jerry, who laughs and says to me, "You!!! Is there no place you won't go?" I reply, "I'm a good Centauri. I go where the money is." He laughs and asks me, "How many f***ing frequent flyer miles do you have?" I reply that I have eight airline accounts and nine hotel accounts. Jerry laughs some more, and we exchange pleasantries until he moves on.

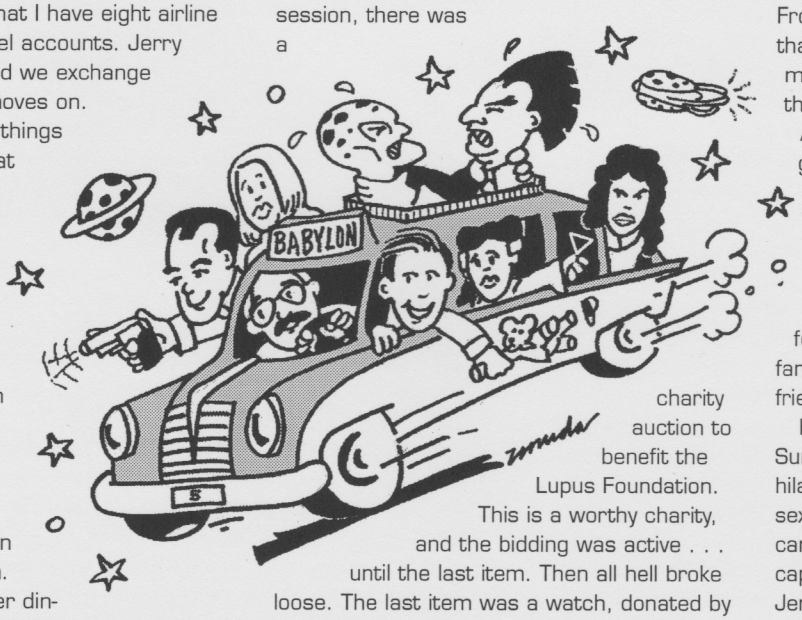
This is one of those things that make Jerry a great convention guest. He comes and talks with the fans, and mixes with them. All of the B5 guests that I have met have this attitude with the fans, and not the standoffish "get away from me" type feeling that you get from some other con guests. Jerry would come to your con party, if you invited him.

Later that night, after dinner, I ran into a crowd of fan, in one of the lounge areas. Looking to see the source of the attraction, in the center of things was Jerry, chatting with the fans about almost everything – technical aspects of the show, script suggestions, the Internet – among many other topics. Jerry made sure to tell the fans around him that he appreciated talking with them, as many of the suggestions that he had received, along with the ideas that he had discussed with the fans at conventions had made their way back to the set – and some had even made their way into scripts! When's the last time that you heard a *Star Trek* guest tell you that?

Saturday afternoon, Jerry had his talk and Q&A session, which I got to hear part of (the drawback to being a dealer is that I have to work through some of the con's best parts). Jerry had the crowd on the floor, telling stories about working on B5, as well as stories about Wall Street where he worked before becoming an actor. Again Jerry complimented and thanked the fans for all of the interactions between himself, J. Michael Straczynski, the other B5 actors, and the fans. You get such a nice feeling, as a fan, when you see someone like this thanking you for making his job better. And, he signs autographs!

Saturday evening a couple of us just back from dinner, were standing at the bar chatting about something or other, and who walks up? You guessed it. Jerry and my friends and I got into a discussion of some of the finer points of huckstering. A crowd kind built up, and again an impromptu chat session started up, covering any topic anyone could think of. I have never, in 21 years, been to a con where a star was this accessible to fans.

On Sunday, Jerry regaled the audience again with his great stories, and took questions, to much great hilarity at times. Right after his talk, and just before the autograph session, there was a



charity auction to benefit the Lupus Foundation. This is a worthy charity, and the bidding was active . . . until the last item. Then all hell broke loose. The last item was a watch, donated by Jerry. This was the crew watch, inscribed with the B5 logo and the 1994-1995 production season information on it. JMS had handed these out at the end of the season to those who had been with B5 for two years, and Jerry donated his to the auction. I was waiting to bid on this item, and they came to get me for it. I watched (no pun intended), as the bidding zoomed past any price that I could justify, without making a bid. I stayed around just to see how high the bidding went. The watch went for $600! That brought a real big round of applause, both for Jerry, our intrepid auctioneer, and the charity, as well as for the lucky bidder. After, Jerry came into the dealers' room for his last autograph session of the con.

I highly recommend that if you get to a show where Jerry is one of the guests, go. You will learn more about the business than you thought possible, and you will laugh till your sides split, and you'll have a great time.

BABCOM '95

There's something about England in the spring. I haven't been back to the U.K. since 1987, and I had never been to Birmingham. The flight to London was great. The trains to Birmingham were interesting. Once I was in Birmingham, the joy of being about to attend a B5 convention in a foreign country, with J. Michael Straczynski, Peter Jurasik, and Claudia Christian, was enough to cure everything, except my jet lag. I got a good night's sleep, and got into the exhibit hall Saturday morning, ready to rock.

The *Stargazer* people run a con slightly differently than most that I attend. This show had a huge lecture hall/main events room. There were two kinds of memberships available, dealers' area only, and full program access. From the audience's reaction, I can tell you that the full program was something, as most fans were really happy. I haven't seen this many smiles in years.

Again, I got to see only snippets of the programming, but what I saw was terrific. I saw Claudia on stage, and she was a riot! I have met few people who are as quick witted, and who have such a wonderful sense of humor as Claudia. And talk about timing. This is another performer, like Jerry, who can speak to the fans like equals – and you feel like you've been friends for a long time.

I got to see more of the programming on Sunday, and I can tell you Claudia was again hilarious. Of course the subject of the little sex toy the alien left Ivanova in one episode came up. Claudia thinks it's a yarmulke (skullcap) for a cat, but was taking no bets. Like Jerry in Houston, Claudia talked about the technical side of doing a show like B5, along with the challenge of being an actor in an ensemble cast. One of the better exchanges came when somebody asked why Ivanova and Londo don't have more scenes together, and Peter Jurasik, who was sitting in the audience got into it with Claudia, while in his Londo persona.

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BABCOM '95

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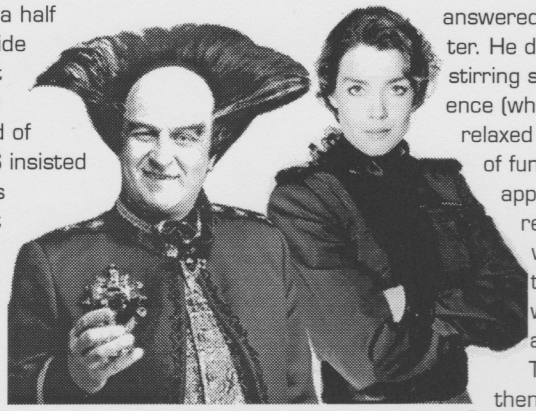
signed programmes.

During the lunch break all the guests were seated at tables where they signed programmes and photos and briefly chatted with the fans. One and a half hours were set aside for autographs but the queue was still massive at the end of that time and JMS insisted that the organizers reschedule so that everyone had a chance of an autograph. He said later that, when he was younger, he'd been in autograph queues only to be turned away at the last minute and there was no way he was going to do that to people.



Peter and Claudia sang Centauri opera together at BABCOM '95.

After the break JMS was on stage and started with a reel of second season clips set to Bonnie Tyler's "Looking For A Hero". Some of the CGI shots that we've not seen yet left me with my jaw dropped! We glimpsed a few spoilers for upcoming episodes too. JMS answered (or didn't answer) questions and gave a few teasers. Then he showed the first blooper reel which was hilarious! Joe had said that the camaraderie and sense of fun on the B5 set is better than any show he's ever worked on (Peter said the same) and it showed in the bloopers. Although some of it was the usual fluffed lines and trouble with props, a lot of the funny stuff was just the guys having fun – I bet the directors could throttle them sometimes. It's obvious that Jerry Doyle is the clown on set but I've been told that Bill Mumy and Richard Biggs are also very funny guys.

Whilst JMS was on stage Peter Jurasik was being made up as Londo. Although I missed this since I wanted to hear JMS, we got to see Peter made up on stage on Sunday. Peter came on and for half an hour answered questions in character. He did a marvelous job of stirring some life into the audience (who were much more relaxed by now) and had a lot of fun joking about his appendages. His ad libbed responses to questions were wonderful and all the time you felt you were talking to Londo and not Peter Jurasik. The Optic Nerve guys then removed Londo's makeup whilst Peter answered questions as himself. Everyone I spoke to was impressed by what a truly wonderful man Peter is.

During the day we managed to gather about 20 Internet people together and on the Saturday evening we all met in the hotel lounge and chatted B5 until 1:00am. This is one of the great things about a convention – actually being able to talk about B5 without folks rolling their eyes and going into a daze!

Sunday saw a slightly smaller crowd but the atmosphere was much more lively. Maybe this was because a lot of us were there for both days and we were really getting into the swing. I certainly shouted out a few more questions and the banter was really good fun. When Peter (as Londo) was on stage he was asked what his favorite episode was. He couldn't remember the title but mentioned the banquet scene from The "Parliament of Dreams". I shouted out "And you look stunning in purple" to which he replied, in that wonderful accent, "And so do you my darling." This time Peter came on stage as himself whist he was make-up as Londo and then he adopted his alias.

During JMS's set we saw the second blooper reel which again was really funny.

The autograph queue again was massive.

Late in the afternoon, JMS kindly set aside 20 minutes to chat with the Internetters following a request for a chance to meet him informally. It was too short a time to ask all the questions we had but we were grateful for the opportunity. I asked Joe if he'd sorted things out with Majel Barrett since she will be at WOLF 359 – or did he want a few Narns with baseball bats as a protection squad. This brought a smile and someone asked if Majel knew that JMS would be there. "Oh! I hope so," said JMS still smiling. Fun, fun, fun . . . .

Claudia fielded lots of amusing banter from the audience that resulted in her saying, "What's up with you British! Don't you ever get laid!"

At the end of the day, JMS, CC and PJ were on stage together. Claudia and Peter did a short opera duet - Peter had previously given us a smidgen of Centauri opera which is far more palatable than Narn! Peter said, "No one's mentioned how good Claudia looks in her Armani suit." Someone shouted, "What about Claudia out of her Armani suit?!" Lots of questions were asked and then the organizers called it a day just as we were having so much fun!

Well, although this has been a lengthy article, I've only given you a taste of what we experienced at Babcom. That was my first convention and I've been told that the fan-run events are even better so I can't wait for WOLF 359 in September. ✯

Jeannette Simpson

ON THE ROAD

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At this point, I come to Peter Jurasik's appearance at the con. One of the extra attractions of the con was Optic Nerve, the make-up group that does the make-up for B5, including the alien masks and other appliances for the show. They did a make-up session with Peter in the dealer's room, and Peter did Londo for the whole weekend! Think about this. The man's at a convention, and he ends up doing the same routine that he has to go through six days a week. It's a good thing he was staying on in England for a vacation after this con.

As I mentioned, Peter was heckling Claudia, in his Londo persona. This was nothing compared to having Londo as a convention guest! Peter *was* Londo. Questions were addressed to Londo, and not the actor who portrays him. Somebody asked if Timon, Londo's wife, was at the con. "GREAT MAKER, NO!!!" he replied. "What are you doing? Trying to get me into trouble? Timon thinks I'm on Babylon 5, and that's where I am, as far as she is concerned!" Try and hear this in Londo's voice, and you'll understand why half of the audience was rolling in the aisles. Don't even get me started on Londo's reaction to questions about his hair style and a peacock!

I lucked out, in that the make-up table/exhibit was right across from my table in the dealers' room, and I got a few moments to talk with Peter about the make-up and life on the set. Peter confirms what every other B5 performer has said about the set. It's a fun job. The jokes and gags and laughs don't stop on the set – and you wonder how these people manage to get an episode shot every week.

I later managed to have a quick chat with Claudia as she was going through the dealers' room between her talk and autograph session. While this is only the second time that I have met her I think she's really a great person, inside (as are all of the B5 people that I have met), and not just an actor who puts on a face when she gets on stage, and is a totally different when she's not on. I'll tell you, I've been going to conventions for 22 years (dealing at them for 21), and I haven't had as much fun in a long time as I have had when I've been at a con with these B5 people. It's no wonder the show is as good as it is. These people make it that way.

A note of amusement. If you haven't seen it, try and get a tape on the May 8 installment of *Entertainment Tonight*, which does a long segment on a sword fight between Londo and another Centauri. Not only is this a great sneak preview of the episode "Knives", but I didn't laugh this hard since the convention. Take a look at it, you'll enjoy it. ✯

Mark Marmor, media Technowizard

BABYLON 5 The Comic Book

With Friends Like These (#5, 4/95)

Writer: Tim DeHaas; artist: John Ridgway

Note: This story takes place prior to events that we saw in "The Coming of Shadows."

©1995 DC Comics

Michael Garibaldi finds Ambassador Londo Mollari and his aide, Vir Kotto,in the Zocalo drinking a toast to the Centauri Empire – Mightiest in the Galaxy. Garibaldi tells Londo that he had been randomly monitoring outgoing communications and those to the Centauri home world contained a frequent references to Quadrant 37. An entire Narn outpost had been obliterated there and Garibaldi wanted to know what Londo knew about the incident.

"Are you spying on me, Mr. Garibaldi," Londo says. Garibaldi states that he has the right to monitor transmissions if he feels there is unauthorized military activity being planned from the station. When Londo begins to protest, he is interrupted by Ambassador G'Kar. He would also like to know what Londo knows about Quadrant 37 but Londo is not about to tell him a thing. As tempers flare, Garibaldi and Vir separate the two and lead them in different directions. Vir tells Londo that he has an appointment with Ambassador Delenn of the Minbari, but when he arrives at his quarters, he finds Morden there instead. Morden advises that Londo's off-station transmissions are attracting attention – attention that is very undesirable.

"Your star is rising, Ambassador. Let me and my associates handle it's ascension," Morden says. While Londo has Vir fix him a drink, Morden asks him to keep him informed of any further investigations by Mr. Garibaldi. "Maybe I should just throw Mr. Garibaldi out the nearest airlock now!" Londo says as Morden departs. Vir protests, saying that Garibaldi is Londo's friend, but Londo has an eye on the future. His life is indeed getting complicated.

Later in the day, Garibaldi is in his office monitoring the Gold Channel. Susan Ivanova enters his office a little upset that Garibaldi has not come to C&C for a meeting on the Drazi transport manifest. When he explains that he is conducting a random check of diplomatic transmissions looking for illegal activities, Ivanova is cautious about Garibaldi's theories of Londo's involvement in the Quadrant 37 incident. Garibaldi is careful in his monitoring; one slip and he would be discovered. He piggybacks on the incoming transmission but is unable to see who is sending the signal. On screen, they watch Londo speak to someone on the Centauri home world. Refa, from Centauri, is impressed with Londo's ability to take care of the Narn military outpost. Londo tells Refa that he is not sure now about the motivation of the source of his assistance and asks for a meeting at their predetermined point in two hours.

Garibaldi tells Ivanova he knows where Londo is headed from other transmissions and wants to beat him there and wait to see what he's up to. Ivanova wants to take the matter to Captain Sheridan but Garibaldi is afraid he won't believe him. He still doesn't know Sheridan well enough – not like Commander Sinclair. There would have been no hesitation there. He would have let Garibaldi take a starfury anywhere a hunch lead him.

Ivanova insists on talking to Sheridan before giving permission to Garibaldi to depart. Garibaldi doesn't feel he has the time to wait, so off he heads to the launch bay. He's met there by Warren Keffer. He wants to go with Garibaldi and can't be talked out of it.

In Londo's quarters, Vir is trying to convince Londo not to leave the station. As Londo heads for the shuttle bay, he meets Morden, who has suddenly appeared in the turbolift. Morden tells Londo that as soon as he leaves Babylon 5, he will inform Refa that his plans have changed and he should return home. You will go to Sector 14 and pay a routine diplomatic visit to a Centauri colony and then return to Babylon 5. Morden insists that Londo follow these instructions exactly. Morden mentions that Garibaldi will be waiting at the rendezvous point and he needs to know where that is. Londo does not want to tell Morden but is pressed into revealing the position.

Garibaldi and Keffer have left the station and are just now coming out of the jump gate near the point where Londo is to meet Refa. As they wait for something to happen, Garibaldi asks Keffer why he came along. Keffer tells Garibaldi that he needed help and frankly Garibaldi didn't have many friends on the station. Garibaldi says that the only one he knew he could trust had gone go Minbar. Keffer tells Garibaldi that he should trust Sheridan, but Garibaldi is still uncertain about him. There was no question of trust when he worked for Jeffrey Sinclair. Jeff would have let him follow his hunch to anywhere, without question. Garibaldi thinks back to the first time he met Jeffrey Sinclair. It was Lt. Commander Sinclair then. Garibaldi was on Mars Colony. He'd been fired from several positions so he started a shuttle transport service to some of the more outlying regions where most of his customers didn't like being asked questions. That was just fine with Garibaldi. He found comfort for his problems in a bottle. One day, three EarthForce staff arrived in his office. Sinclair was all spit and polish, asking if Garibaldi was for hire. Sinclair explained that he needed someone very familiar with this particular part of Mars and he had been told that Garibaldi was the best. While the personnel with Sinclair questioned his abilities, based on his rather scruffy look, Sinclair stated frankly that he would prefer his pilots sober. Garibaldi, not particularly respectful of anyone at this point, said that he liked his clients to respect his privacy as he would respect theirs. Sinclair did not want to endanger anyone and his responsibility was stated quite clearly to Garibaldi. Garibaldi's response was to be ready in an hour.

Before Garibaldi could continue with the story, however, he and Keffer see a very strange object dead ahead. When they try to escape, even at maximum burn, they are hit. Smoke billows from their ship and they fight the controls while heading for the planet below. Looking for a place to land is not easy and they both hope the foam-protect works within the cockpit. This episode ends with the ship going down and smoke rising from the horizon.

(*issue #6 will be continued next month*)

Sandra Bruckner

B5 IS INCLUDED IN TRIVIA GAME

The Centaurian Sentinel had the opportunity to meet the creators of "The Amazing Science Fiction & Horror Trivia Game" at I-Con XIV, and had the chance to play a fifteen minute round of their board game.

The goal of the game is to move your game pieces away from the Vortex and be the first player to reach Escape Velocity. Answering the trivia questions correctly advances the player around the board, collecting Fuel Pods. If a player looses too many answers, which results in the loss of pods, they may fall into the Vortex. 2-6 players, or teams, can play.

The eight categories in the game include "Science Fiction Films," "Horror Films," "Monster & Super Heroes," "The Classics," "Actors and Their Roles," "Television," "Frontiers, & Galaxies," and "Into the Unknown." Though the game contained 3,200 trivia questions only a few dealt with BABYLON 5. It was explained that when the game was created B5 was only starting its first season. During my round, by absolute chance (no sleight of hand was involved) I picked one of the B5 cards. I will not reveal the question but I can say that I had no trouble answering it. I was told the supplementary card deck would contain a generous amount of B5 questions.

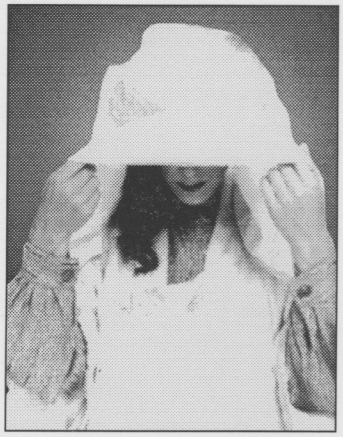
To order the game send $34, plus $7 p/h (in Canada $12 p/h) to Dann RussKett Games, Inc., P.O. Box 66, Stillwater, NJ 07875, or call 1-800/310-GAMES. Payment must be in U.S. funds, New Jersey residents must add 6% sales tax. ★

BABYLON 5 EPISODES

Revelations (#202)

G'Kar is investigating the attack on the Narn base in quadrant 37. While G'Kar and his squadron is checking the area Shadow ships appear and pursue them. Two Narn ships are destroyed and one turns and rams into one of the Shadow crafts, destroying it. G'Kar is able to reach the jumpgate and returns to Babylon 5.

On Babylon 5 Lennier is nursing Delenn, who is still in her chrysalis. Capt. John Sheridan's sister, Elizabeth Sheridan, is arriving to visit with him.



Delenn prepares to reveal her new new identity.

Michael Garibaldi is still in a coma. Dr. Stephen Franklin wants to use the alien healing device which he has on Garibaldi. He gets permission from Sheridan to hook himself up to it so that he could donate some of his lifeforce to revive Garibaldi.

Londo Mollari meets with Morden, he is concerned about the attention that is being created by the destroyed Narn outpost. Morden tells him that that he shouldn't worry, and tells him that other Narn outposts and colonies can be taken out at his asking. In return Morden wants to be informed if Londo hears anything regarding strange activities that may be taking place out at the rim of known space.

G'Kar is speaking with Na'Toth and comments, "Weap for the future Na'Toth, weep for us all." He tells her of a great power that existed long ago on a rim world. G'Quan wrote of a race that was defeated by the Narns. "After a thousand years the darkness has come again."

Garibaldi comes out of his coma and tries to warn about plans to assassinate President Luis Santiago. He is told that it is too late, also that Commander Jeffrey Sinclair has been reassigned. Garibaldi does not remember who had shot him. His aide is in the background, with one hand prepared to pull out his PPG if Garibaldi remembers.

Lennier enters Delenn's quarters to find her hatched from the cocoon. He calls Franklin to help Delenn, who is covered with blue scales.

Elizabeth was good friends with Sheridan's wife Anna. It has been two years since Anna had passed away. She was on the deep space exploration ship Icarus which exploded as it was about to explore remains of an ancient civilization on a rim world. Sheridan tells Elizabeth that he feels guilty because they were supposed to go on a vacation together, but he had an assignment which postponed things – which allowed Anna to go on the expedition.

G'Kar had convinced the Narns to send a fighter ship to check out the Shadows' old domain, a place that has been dead for a thousand years. The ship would quickly scan the enemy's homeworld, called Z'ha'dum, and then return to the jumpgate before they could be attacked. G'Kar is now trying to warn the Babylon 5 Council about the danger of the Shadows. "If someone is found there then all races stand on the edge of extinction," he proclaims.

Londo reports to Morden what G'Kar had told them, and when the ship would arrive.

Garibaldi asks Talia to scan him for any evidence which might lead them to the person who shot him. She sees the people that are confronting Garibaldi, and in a reflective surface she sees a person behind him aiming a PPG at him. It is Garibaldi's aide. They nab him and lock him up in maximum security. Garibaldi interrogates him and finds that the aide was given instructions by the "New Order" and not the Homeguard.

President Morgan Clark calls Sheridan and asks that the aide and all transcripts be placed on the first prison shuttle to be sent to Earth. Sheridan becomes suspicious.

The Narn warship exists hyperspace into normal space at the rim and is destroyed by the Shadows. G'Kar is wondering how they might have been discovered since only the members in the council chamber knew about the plans. He looks towards Londo with suspicion.

Lennier enters the council chamber and says that Delenn is ready to resume her seat on the council. A hooded Delenn enters and reveals herself. She now has long dark hair and only a small bony crest on her head. She speaks, "Ambassador Sinclair has been allowed to live on my homeworld, as an act of good faith, to create a greater understanding between Minbari and humans. In return I have undergone this change with the blessings of my government, so that I may become a bridge between our worlds – in the hope that we will never know war between us again."

Elizabeth gives Sheridan a data crystal containing part of a message that Anna had left her before she had died. He finds out that she was going to postpone their vacation because she was determined to go on her assignment. She mentions how lucky Elizabeth is to have a brother like John.

Garibaldi is concerned that Clark is involved with the radical earth group. He thinks that it is suspicious that Clark had left Earth Force 1 before it had exploded.

The prisoner and all evidence are discovered to have been transferred from the prisoner shuttle to an unregistered Earth Force ship – and President Clark is not taking calls!

Elizabeth Sheridan is played by Beverly Leech, Garibaldi's aide (Jack) by Macaulay Bruton, and Anna Sheridan by Beth Toussaint. "Revelations" was written by J. Michael Straczynski and produced by John Copeland.

The Geometry of Shadows (#203)

Michael Garibaldi is speaking with Stephen Franklin about his recovery. He mentions that he doesn't trust John Sheridan.

Refa, a representative of the Centauri government, is speaking with Londo. The Centauri who had set up a monitoring station at Quadrant 37 were checking on the Narn build-up and witnessed the terrible aftermath of the destruction of the Narn outpost. Refa compliments Londo on the job well. He also mentions a growing movement on Centauri prime to overthrow the Emperor, and since Londo in a prominent position he asks for his support.

Three technomages board Babylon 5. Technomages, who use science to achieve the effect of magic, usually don't leave their places of power. "To see even one of them is a rare thing. To see more then one at a time is a bad omen," Londo warns Vir.

In the Zocalo are two groups of Drazi confront each other and start a fist-fight. Once every five years all the Drazi divide up into two camps – those who wear purple scarves, and those who wear green scarves – and slug it out until they become senseless. Whichever group wins the most victories at the end of their cultural event they become the dominant group for the next five years.

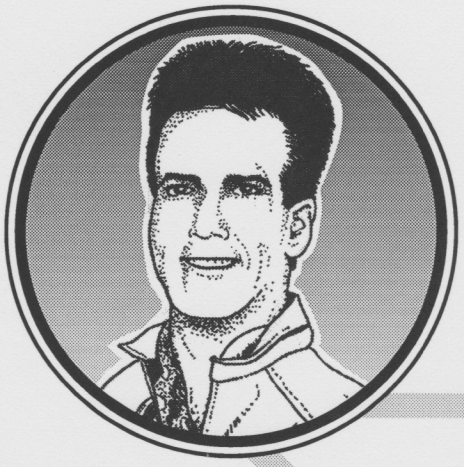
Sheridan asks Susan Ivanova to handle the situation which is currently a low priority conflict. He mentions that added responsibility comes with any promotion. Ivanova looks confused by his comment, that is until he mentions that he had pushed through her promotion to Commander.

Sheridan visits Garibaldi who is hesitant to go back to his job as a chief of security. Sheridan, who wants Garibaldi back in charge convinces Garibaldi that he isn't all that bad.

Ivanova, who is attempting to create a peaceful solution to the Drazi situation, confronts the two sides. She is told that the way the

BABYLON 5 PERSONNEL FILE

FOR AUTHORIZED EARTH ALLIANCE MEMBERS ONLY!



Warren Keffer

Profile: Warren Keffer is a starfury pilot and leader of Babylon 5's Zeta Wing.

Credentials: Warren Keffer is played by Robert Russler

The Drazi

Profile: The Drazi are members of the League of Non-Aligned World. Every five years the Drazi split up into two randomly chosen factions, which battle each other to decide on the new ruler.

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two sides are chosen is by having all Drazi randomly pick from a barrel either a green or purple scarf. The leaders of both sides are the two Drazi that pick the leader scarves. A fight between the two sides start, and in the process of getting knocked down Ivanova breaks her foot.

Before the first Centauri Emperor took the throne of the Centauri Republic he had consulted three technomages who gave him their blessings. Londo thinks that if he can get a blessing by a technomage then Centauri would look up to him. Londo wants to consult with the ones on the station and sends Vir to request an audience with them. A technomage named Elric refuses to participate and mentions that they can not be forced to do so.

Londo, who is insistent in being seen with the technomages, approaches Sheridan and warns him that they may cause trouble. Sheridan has been helping Earth try to figure out why there is a mass exodus of technomages who are planning to leave the galaxy. He is holding over 100 technomages on the station, hoping that he can find out where they are going before they leave. Sheridan agrees with Londo to set up a meeting with them.

Ivanova, who now must wear a cast for three weeks, finds out that the green Drazi have been killing purples on Drazi Homeworld. It's too late on Babylon 5, the fist-fights have also escalated to killings.

Elric, who meets with Sheridan, will not give out any information. Londo enters and discreetly places a camera on a shelf. Elric blows-up the recording device. Londo was hoping to use the recording of Elric and him as an endorsement. Elric shoos Londo out.

The technomages are fleeing from the black and terrible storm that is coming. Elric explains to Sheridan that technomages study technology, how to effect people with words, and how to rediscover dreams when a world is taken away. "We are dreamers. shapers, singers, and makers," he exclaims. They want to protect their knowledge and can not say where they are going.

Ivanova goes to the stronghold of the green Drazi and demands to see their leader. They hold her hostage and try to lure the purple Drazi into Brown 29 so that they could space them all at once. Garibaldi figures out where Ivanova might be and enters to find her being held at knife point. He is able to cause a distraction and get her free.

Meanwhile all of Londo's records are being destroyed by a curse that Elric put on his computer. If that isn't bad enough Londo is being forced to listen to Narn opera that is being played in his quarters.

The green Drazi are on their way to Brown 29, where security is holding the purple Drazi. Garibaldi and Ivanova confront the green Drazi in the corridor. Ivanova tries to convince him that the fighting is ridiculous, that conflicts shouldn't start over the color of one's scarf. The green Drazi leader replies that humans fight over the same thing . . . what color their flag is. Ivanova tries to explain that when humans fight they fight over meaningful issue, and not just colors of a scarf. She pulls the green scarf off of the leader and puts it around her neck. The Drazi stare in disbelief. She has become the new leader of the green Drazi because she now wears the green scarf – the Drazi rules aren't specific to one species. Ivanova marches them all down to the quartermaster's office. Unfortunately the cycle of fighting lasts for 1 Drazi year, which turns out to be 1.2 human years! Now she must figure out how to keep them apart for that long.

Londo goes to Elric to apologize. He is forgiven and told that the curse was lifted from his computer, but he is still with a curse. Elric warns him that his destiny will include many victims.

Sheridan lets the technomages leave the station. He feels that someday he may see them again.

Elric is played by Michael Ansara, and Refa by William Forward.

This episode was written by J. Michael Straczynski and directed by Mike Laurence Vejar.

TRANSMISSIONS

Congratulations to everyone involved in securing a third season of BABYLON 5 with Warner Bros and PTEN. Upon notice of this fantastic news ***The Centaurian Sentinel*** had presented J. Michael Straczynski, in fan appreciation, with a volume of poems by Alfred Tennyson. For some cosmic reason the original owner of the book (which was printed in 1877) placed a bookmark across from the poem "Ulysses".

The final four episodes of the second season will not be shown in the US until October. Apparently Warner Bros has postponed the episodes so that they would get a running start on the third season. As of press time Warner was still planning to show these remaining four episodes in the UK, as scheduled, in June and July. I guess US fans really shouldn't complain since Australian fans, until recently, haven't seen new episodes since February.

Warner Bros also decided not to repeat the first season episodes during the rerun period, since they fear that new viewers may become confused in thinking that these are second season episodes.

The B5 video tapes (in PAL/VHS format) have been appearing in stores in the UK. In addition to the pilot episode, "The Gathering", the episodes that are currently available are "Midnight on the Firing Line"/"Soul Hunter", "Born to the Purple"/"Infection", and "A Voice in the Wilderness" (parts 1 and 2 on one tape). Videos are planned to be available in the US by late summer.

Those B5 trading cards which were promised ages ago are now being produced by Fleer and should be available by this September.

It seems the #4 set of the B5 Micro Machines by Galoob is shipping in smaller quantities. And because people seem to be buying two sets of each series, one to put into storage and one to play with, #4 becomes even harder to find. Meanwhile series #5 and 6 are being planned with the following ships included: a purple Centauri personal transport, a Narn heavy cruiser, a Narn fighter, Earthforce 1, the Marie Celeste, and an Earth Alliance atmospheric shuttle.

The cover of issue #9 of the B5 comic book will feature CGI artwork by Ron Thornton of Foundation Imaging. David Gerrold will be the writer of that issue and for #10. Artist John Ridgway and Tim DeHaas will be coming back for #11, which will be a one issue story. According to DC Comics reorders for the B5 comic have been strong, with back issues nowhere to be found. The best way to make sure that you get issues of the B5 title is to reserve a copies with the comic book dealer in your neighborhood – it doesn't cost anything extra.

Happy Birthday to Jerry Doyle (July 16) and J. Michael Straczynski (July 17).

Our condolences go out to Robert Foxworth (General Hague). His wife, Elizabeth Montgomery, recently died from cancer. ★ **Mykl**

GOLD CHANNEL

The Centaurian Sentinel is great! I have just received my first issue and am thrilled with the quality of the newsletter. It really lets me know just what's going on in the BABYLON 5 universe.

I think people should stop making a fuss over Michael O'Hare's departure. The character of Jeffrey Sinclair had a destiny elsewhere (as hinted by Delenn in the first season). Sinclair always had that dark side to him. He now works as a ranger and an ambassador for the Minbari – a more important and appropriate role that will shape the story of the last of the Babylon stations. I hope to see more of Sinclair in future episodes. When Sinclair last appeared in "The Coming of the Shadows," it gave me, and surely other fans, hope that he would be a character remaining in the series.

Bruce Boxleitner is a terrific and energetic actor. He brings vibrant life into the character of Captain John Sheridan. I'm tired of hearing fans say how they should give Sheridan the boot and bring back Sinclair. They need Sheridan to better shape the story. Straczynski was right when he said, "Also remember his connections was mainly to the Minbari. I need someone with a connection to the Shadows, and making Sinclair that person would be too much to believe, with all the rest."

Jonathan Curcio, Woburn, MA

Request for ACT III of Babylon 5

To B5 or not to B5, that is the question:
Weather 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer
The slings and arrows of outrageous TV
Or to take arms against a sea of mediocrity,
And by opposing end it. To hope – to wish
Once more; for renewal of The Babylon 5 Show
The heartaches, and the thousand natural shocks
That we will suffer of a nay decision,
Devoutly 'tis not to be wished. To hope – to wish
To wish – perchance to dream . . .

Ray Badiak, Flemington, NJ

THE ZOCALO EXCHANGE

WANTED

Wanted: DC Comics Babylon 5 Issue #2. Will pay issue price plus shipping & handling.
Contact: Nancy Saylor, 3232B Cypress St., Dover, DE 19901.

HELP! BABYLON 5 fan seeking, a printout of all BABYLON 5 information, etc. from the internets. I will pay a reasonable price for these to be provided once a month. Please contact Homer Eversole, P.O. Box 1493, Seagraves, TX 79359.

Need BABYLON 5 pilot and some 1st season episodes on VHS. Call Jon Curcio at 617/938-8265 in Woburn, MA if you have any.

PEN PALS WANTED

Seeking Pen Friends from Points Beyond. If interested then drop me a note in c/o Nancy VanDeBogart, 2-9 King George Square, Belleville, Ontario, K8P 2A6, Canada.

PIRATED MERCHANDISE

Please note: ***The Centaurian Sentinel*** does not endorse the buying or selling of unlicensed BABYLON 5 material – this includes patches, pins, t-shirts, scripts, etc. The selling of taped episodes is also illegal. Please be careful when making purchases, merchandise should have proper copyright notices.